

HARLEM Friendship House NEWS



Published monthly by FRIENDSHIP House at 34 W. 135 St., New York, N.Y.
Audubon-3-4892

Volume One
Number One

May, 1951

FRIENDSHIP HOUSE NEWS

Published monthly by
HARLEM FRIENDSHIP HOUSE
at 34 West 135th Street
New York, N.Y. AUdubon 3-4892

EDITORIAL STAFF

Baroness C.de Hueck E.Doherty

DREAMS

Do you ever dream? We do. In fact, we are always dreaming---all kinds of strange, adventurous dreams--- and no one is more astonished than we, when they suddenly come true!

Years ago, we dreamed of a strange, new way of life, (or was it old, only we had forgotten?) We wanted to be poor, utterly, absolutely poor, like God's poor --- and for the love of them, to go and live in their midst, and just being with them talk about God's love for them, which we figured was all that was necessary to take them away from the Communists, and bring them back to their Father's House.....

Well, today we have the Friendship House in Harlem. And we are poor with the Poor. And we talk to them of the love God has for them in many ways..... Through our Lending Library, Open Forums, Study Clubs, Corporeal and Spiritual Works of Mercy and, even quite simply, sitting on overturned orange boxes in the warm sunshine on the busy street....And somehow, the Holy Ghost alone knows how they smile and listen and come back Home..

A little while ago, we dreamt again about a Paper. A tiny little humble Paper, that would tell of our Portiuncula--Little Garden of the Vinyard, that was given us to till in

poor, overcrowded, forgotten Harlem...

There was going to be nothing great about our Little Paper. How could there be, for there is nothing great about us either. We just live in Harlem and our days are filled with little things....Washing, cleaning, giving out clothes, keeping a bunch of kids amused in our Club Rooms, giving out books, talking to everyone, and listening too. So the Paper would do just that-----tell YOU OUR FAITHFUL FRIENDS, who have stood by us through all those hard lonely years of "starting"..... Friendship House.....all about our Little Works.....

Somehow, we thought, in that dream, that you might be interested to know all about everything....About our first CYO wedding, that took place last Sunday, when we felt so happy to see two Catholic youngsters start life together with the blessing of the Church, they might not have had, had there been no CYO to meet at, but only the Street, as before.....

Or about the Baptist Preacher, who used to come every Monday to our Open Forum, and provide the Reverend Speakers with many theological problems...and who walked in yesterday, announcing that he was ready to "turn Catholic", and is under instructions now.

Simple and ordinary, as our lives are, we feel that they are so many "GLORIOUS ADVENTURES WITH GOD". And we thought you might like to share them through that LITTLE PAPER we dreamt about yesterday.

So today, we gathered our courage as well as a pencil and some paper and figured out painstakingly (we were never good at figures) if we could launch this first FRIENDSHIP HOUSE NEWS number....Well, with a lot of praying, cutting, and

and there we could.....

The Paper would cost \$20.00. The mailing to you, our SEVEN THOUSAND FRIENDS, would be \$70.00 and \$10.00 for sundries make a good round \$100.00.

A terrible lot of money....but then you would know all about the work of the Little Portion that is ours and yours. And what is more, we could tell you all about the sorrows, needs, hopes and dreams of our brothers in the Mystical Body of Christ-the Negroes.....AND THEN PERHAPS AS TIME WENT ON, YOU TOO WOULD SEE CLEARER AND CLEARER-----CHRIST IN THE NEGRO. DO YOU WANT TO? DO YOU WANT TO? THE ANSWER RESTS WITH YOU!.....

WILL YOU SUBSCRIBE TO "FRIENDSHIP HOUSE NEWS"?..IT WILL COST YOU FIFTY CENTS A YEAR. IT IS A LOT OF MONEY...TO US ANYHOW IT LOOKS LIKE A LOT....YET IT WILL NOT COVER THE COST....BUT THERE IS ALWAYS THE HOLY GHOST.....HE WILL MAKE UP THE DIFFERENCE BECAUSE WE FEEL SURE THAT HE WANTS YOU TO KNOW ABOUT "The Little Portion" of His Vinyard, which is also-----OURS AND YOURS.....

WE AWAIT YOUR ANSWER....IT WILL COME TO US IN THE SHAPE OF YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS WITH FIFTY CENTS. THEN - WE SHALL KNOW - IF OUR LAST DREAM IS TO COME TRUE TOO.....

Catherine de Hueck

NEXT ISSUE

READ ARTICLES BY:

Rev. Dr. Paul H. Furfey, Head of the Department of Sociology at Catholic University and author of "Fire on the Earth" and "This Way to Heaven", etc., will write for us RACE PREJUDICE IS VILE.

Edward Doherty, Staff Correspondent of Liberty, celebrated Catholic journalist, contributes MISSIONARY IN NEW YORK.

STAFF REPORTER

We've often wondered if the "Staff" of Friendship House is regarded as Curios or crackpots.

Just to prove that we don't smack of the eccentric because we live in Harlem and like it we'll give you a thumbnail sketch, and let you draw your own conclusions.

Marty Zeechbaur comes to us from Salzburg, Austria. She is a rosy-cheeked young lady, with a Viennese sparkle. A graduate social worker, she found her niche in the F.H. Clothing Room. Marty climbs mountains, and loves Novenas to the Holy Ghost.

Mary Hallock is our pretty blonde Staff Cook. Being a veteran of F.H., she is adept at whipping up the Mystery Soup of indefinite origin, but swell. Mary has a penchant for the Franciscan spirit, Cooperative farms and proteins.

Mary Jordo is an effervescent French girl from Essex, N.Y. A two-word description by the "B" suits her fine.. "Stormy Petrel" Another mark of distinction is a frantic hair-do and a perpetually harassed look from running the F.H. Office.

Charlie Summers came fresh from a Benedictine Monastery. He is the incarnation of "Brother Petrec". He is our "Apostle to the Poor and a theologian. He knows the ten best ways to supernaturalize any given subject, but in spite of it all... or because of it.. Charlie has a swell sense of humor....and a terrific appetite.

Grace Flowwelling, alias "Floocy" is the senior partner of the firm of F.H. She started with the "B" in Canada and followed her to Harlem. She is an artist and spends her days turning out masterpieces. She loves food, the Liturgy, and Bach music

THE BARONESS BEGS

Definitely, I have ceased to enjoy my walks on 135th St., which our kids have dubbed "Baroness" Street because we occupy quite a few premises in that block with our Friendship House.

And I used to love those walks of mine so.....They were little adventures in Friendship....Greetings came from all sides, and there was old, wise, Pop to stop and talk to....He knew everybody and everything that happened on the Street, for there he was always sitting on the stoop, in the warm sunshine.....Then there were the mothers of our kids, full news too....And Eva's Beauty parlor, a sort of a women's Club, and she our last convert....eager to spread the Faith far and wide.

Yes, it used to be fun....But now the Street has become a TRUTH to be grimly faced-----for each time I put my foot on it, a cluster of youngsters surround me, pushing each other in their eagerness---all shouting at once----"Can I go to Camp, Baroness? Is I goin' too? And me, and me?.....".

Big black eyes look trustingly into mine. Flashing smiles do not disguise thin pinched faces..... Last year, we had 300 applicants, and could only send 100. What of this year? IN OTHER COUNTRIES... bombs are KILLING CHILDREN.....

WILL WE KILL OURS BY FORGETTING THEM IN DUSTY DIRTY HOMES?

CAMPS - OUTLINGS - PICNICS??????

Will our 350 CYO youngsters and others get them?

WHAT OF THE OTHER WORKS??????????

Summer or Winter, the Clothing Room serves 250 people a week. The Friendship House Library fights twelve months of the year the lies of Communists and Nazis. Its Study Clubs, Open Forums and services, in season and out of season, preach the truths of God and His Church...Daily, a steady stream of hungry people are fed--groceries cost money too-----The sick, the halt, the lame, and the blind, literally and figuratively that our workers visit and help. WHAT OF THEM?.....

OUR SUMMER PROGRAM COSTS----ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS---WE HAVE AT THIS MOMENT ABOUT \$200.00 IN THE BANK.....NOT ENOUGH FOR A MONTHBUT THERE IS THE HOLY GHOSTAND YOU, OUR FRIENDS OF OLD.....FRIENDSHIP HOUSE HAS ALWAYS COUNTED ON THE TWO.....AND HAS NEVER BEEN DISAPPOINTED..... AGAIN...WE BEG...NOT FOR OURSELVES...ONLY FOR CHRIST IN THE NEGRO.....

PLEASE....IN HIS NAME.....

Make check to-Catharine de Hueck

HARLEM FRIENDSHIP HOUSE NEWS

Soc. 562, P. L. & R.

34 West 135th Street,
New York, New York.

RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

TO:

Mr. Michael Strosser
2127 North 38th St.
Milwaukee
Wisconsin

